

For Immediate Release

September 24, 2003

Boston Connects, Inc. Lends \$5.4M to BRA for Development of DPH Building in Dudley Square

The Board of Directors of Boston Connects, Inc. (BCI) voted Tuesday night, September 23, to authorize a \$5,433,263 loan in EDI/HUD 108 funds to the Boston Redevelopment Authority (BRA) for the future development of the new Massachusetts Department of Public Health building in Dudley Square. The funds authorize the BRA to acquire the land and buildings from current owners, Manchioneal Associates LP and Dudley Street Enterprises, Inc., the future development.

"The MA Department of Public Health Project will produce a 200,000 square foot office building on a currently blighted site as well as facilitate the redevelopment of an adjacent landmark structure which will create an additional 50,000 square feet of office and ground floor retail space," said Christine Araujo, BCI Executive Director. "Additionally, the DPH project will jump start the Modern Electroplating project nearby which will clean up a significantly contaminated property in the heart of Dudley Square, as well as provide additional resources to the area."

The DPH project would relocate up to 1,200 employees to Dudley Square; these employees should generate new retail activity in Dudley Square in excess of \$2 million annually. The Modern Electroplating project will produce 70,000 square feet of retail and office space and a 500 space parking facility. The total cost of both projects will be in excess of \$65 million.

For more information contact BCI at (617) 541-2670.

Boston Connects, Inc. is the community-based organization working to create economic self-sufficiency for individuals, families and communities in Boston's Empowerment Zone.

